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SURVEY AND SUMMARY**ADEPTs: information necessary for subcellular distribution of eukaryotic sorting isozymes resides in domains missing from eubacterial and archaeal counterparts**David R. Stanford, Nancy G. Martin¹ and Anita K. Hopper*

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ABSTRACT

Sorting isozymes are encoded by single genes, but the encoded proteins are distributed to multiple subcellular compartments. We surveyed the predicted protein sequences of several nucleic acid interacting sorting isozymes from the eukaryotic taxonomic domain and compared them with their homologs in the archaeal and eubacterial domains. Here, we summarize the data showing that the eukaryotic sorting isozymes often possess sequences not present in the archaeal and eubacterial counterparts and that the additional sequences can act to target the eukaryotic proteins to their appropriate subcellular locations. Therefore, we have named these protein domains ADEPTs (Additional Domains for Eukaryotic Protein Targeting). Identification of additional domains by phylogenetic comparisons should be generally useful for locating candidate sequences important for subcellular distribution of eukaryotic proteins.

INTRODUCTION

Eukaryotes are typified by the possession of organelles, generating numerous subcellular locations separated from one another by one or more membranes. Generally the different subcellular compartments carry out unique biochemical reactions. However, sometimes the same catalytic activity is found in more than one subcellular compartment. There are three different mechanisms used by eukaryotic cells to deliver the same enzymatic activity to more than one subcellular location. First, the same catalytic activity may be encoded by dissimilar genes. For example, cognate mitochondrial and cytosolic aminoacyl-tRNA synthetases can be quite distinct (1,2). Second, a catalytic activity may be encoded by multiple similar genes, each encoding an isozyme with unique subcellular distribution.

The yeast genes, *ADH1*, *ADH2* and *ADH3*, provide an example of this type of mechanism (3). Finally, a single gene may encode two or more isozymes with different subcellular distributions. These proteins are called 'sorting isozymes' and are involved in many important metabolic processes (for a review see 4,5).

Sorting isozymes must contain information necessary for protein distribution to different compartments without compromising catalytic activity. Cellular mechanisms that achieve this are varied. In some cases, alternative transcriptional initiation generates mRNAs that encode the catalytic portion with or without signals for specific compartments. In other cases, the same end is achieved by alternative translational initiation or alternative splicing. Finally post-translational modifications can also alter the targeting information without altering catalytic activity (for a review see 4,5). In this report we focus on the *cis*-acting signals responsible for sorting isozyme distribution.

Genome sequencing efforts have generated information for several archaeal (six are complete and a few others are nearing completion: TIGR, <http://www.tigr.org/tdb/mdb/mdh.html>), many eubacterial (19 are complete and many others are well underway), many, many viral and several eukaryotic nuclear as well as over 100 mitochondrial and 11 chloroplast organellar genomes (see Entrez Genomes at NCBI, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Entrez/Genome/org.html>). Indeed, the sequences of two eukaryotic nuclear genomes are virtually complete (6,7). If one assumes that sequences important to catalytic function will be conserved, then comparisons of eukaryotic sorting isozymes to their counterpart proteins in non-eukaryotic organisms might reveal the regions of the proteins serving the sorting function.

To test this assumption we conducted phylogenetic comparisons of five proteins. We chose genes that had been functionally characterized by cell biology and molecular biology experiments for their nuclear and mitochondrial targeting signals and some for cytoplasmic retention/nuclear export signals. We used three criteria to choose those proteins. (1) At least one eukaryotic member of the family has been shown directly to be a sorting isozyme and there is detailed information regarding the *cis*-acting sequences involved in subcellular distribution

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Table 1. Accession numbers

Organism	Mod5p/Mod5A	Tnn1p	Hist1p/Hist1A	Ceal1p	Ung1p	Accession Number
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000001	AF000002	AF000003	AF000004	AF000005	AF000006
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000007	AF000008	AF000009	AF000010	AF000011	AF000012
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000013	AF000014	AF000015	AF000016	AF000017	AF000018
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000019	AF000020	AF000021	AF000022	AF000023	AF000024
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000025	AF000026	AF000027	AF000028	AF000029	AF000030
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000031	AF000032	AF000033	AF000034	AF000035	AF000036
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000037	AF000038	AF000039	AF000040	AF000041	AF000042
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000043	AF000044	AF000045	AF000046	AF000047	AF000048
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000049	AF000050	AF000051	AF000052	AF000053	AF000054
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	AF000055	AF000056	AF000057	AF000058	AF000059	AF000060
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000061	AF000062	AF000063	AF000064	AF000065	AF000066
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000067	AF000068	AF000069	AF000070	AF000071	AF000072
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000073	AF000074	AF000075	AF000076	AF000077	AF000078
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000079	AF000080	AF000081	AF000082	AF000083	AF000084
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000085	AF000086	AF000087	AF000088	AF000089	AF000090
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000091	AF000092	AF000093	AF000094	AF000095	AF000096
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000097	AF000098	AF000099	AF000100	AF000101	AF000102
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000103	AF000104	AF000105	AF000106	AF000107	AF000108
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000109	AF000110	AF000111	AF000112	AF000113	AF000114
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000115	AF000116	AF000117	AF000118	AF000119	AF000120
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	AF000121	AF000122	AF000123	AF000124	AF000125	AF000126
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000127	AF000128	AF000129	AF000130	AF000131	AF000132
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000133	AF000134	AF000135	AF000136	AF000137	AF000138
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000139	AF000140	AF000141	AF000142	AF000143	AF000144
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000145	AF000146	AF000147	AF000148	AF000149	AF000150
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000151	AF000152	AF000153	AF000154	AF000155	AF000156
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000157	AF000158	AF000159	AF000160	AF000161	AF000162
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000163	AF000164	AF000165	AF000166	AF000167	AF000168
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000169	AF000170	AF000171	AF000172	AF000173	AF000174
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000175	AF000176	AF000177	AF000178	AF000179	AF000180
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000181	AF000182	AF000183	AF000184	AF000185	AF000186
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	AF000187	AF000188	AF000189	AF000190	AF000191	AF000192
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000193	AF000194	AF000195	AF000196	AF000197	AF000198
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000199	AF000200	AF000201	AF000202	AF000203	AF000204
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000205	AF000206	AF000207	AF000208	AF000209	AF000210
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000211	AF000212	AF000213	AF000214	AF000215	AF000216
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000217	AF000218	AF000219	AF000220	AF000221	AF000222
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000223	AF000224	AF000225	AF000226	AF000227	AF000228
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000229	AF000230	AF000231	AF000232	AF000233	AF000234
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000235	AF000236	AF000237	AF000238	AF000239	AF000240
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000241	AF000242	AF000243	AF000244	AF000245	AF000246
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000247	AF000248	AF000249	AF000250	AF000251	AF000252
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	AF000253	AF000254	AF000255	AF000256	AF000257	AF000258
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000259	AF000260	AF000261	AF000262	AF000263	AF000264
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000265	AF000266	AF000267	AF000268	AF000269	AF000270
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000271	AF000272	AF000273	AF000274	AF000275	AF000276
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000277	AF000278	AF000279	AF000280	AF000281	AF000282
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000283	AF000284	AF000285	AF000286	AF000287	AF000288
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000289	AF000290	AF000291	AF000292	AF000293	AF000294
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000295	AF000296	AF000297	AF000298	AF000299	AF000300
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000301	AF000302	AF000303	AF000304	AF000305	AF000306
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000307	AF000308	AF000309	AF000310	AF000311	AF000312
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000313	AF000314	AF000315	AF000316	AF000317	AF000318
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	AF000319	AF000320	AF000321	AF000322	AF000323	AF000324
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000325	AF000326	AF000327	AF000328	AF000329	AF000330
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000331	AF000332	AF000333	AF000334	AF000335	AF000336
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000337	AF000338	AF000339	AF000340	AF000341	AF000342
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000343	AF000344	AF000345	AF000346	AF000347	AF000348
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000349	AF000350	AF000351	AF000352	AF000353	AF000354
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000355	AF000356	AF000357	AF000358	AF000359	AF000360
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000361	AF000362	AF000363	AF000364	AF000365	AF000366
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000367	AF000368	AF000369	AF000370	AF000371	AF000372
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000373	AF000374	AF000375	AF000376	AF000377	AF000378
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000379	AF000380	AF000381	AF000382	AF000383	AF000384
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	AF000385	AF000386	AF000387	AF000388	AF000389	AF000390
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000391	AF000392	AF000393	AF000394	AF000395	AF000396
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000397	AF000398	AF000399	AF000400	AF000401	AF000402
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000403	AF000404	AF000405	AF000406	AF000407	AF000408
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000409	AF000410	AF000411	AF000412	AF000413	AF000414
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000415	AF000416	AF000417	AF000418	AF000419	AF000420
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000421	AF000422	AF000423	AF000424	AF000425	AF000426
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000427	AF000428	AF000429	AF000430	AF000431	AF000432
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000433	AF000434	AF000435	AF000436	AF000437	AF000438
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000439	AF000440	AF000441	AF000442	AF000443	AF000444
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000445	AF000446	AF000447	AF000448	AF000449	AF000450
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	AF000451	AF000452	AF000453	AF000454	AF000455	AF000456
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000457	AF000458	AF000459	AF000460	AF000461	AF000462
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000463	AF000464	AF000465	AF000466	AF000467	AF000468
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000469	AF000470	AF000471	AF000472	AF000473	AF000474
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000475	AF000476	AF000477	AF000478	AF000479	AF000480
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000481	AF000482	AF000483	AF000484	AF000485	AF000486
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000487	AF000488	AF000489	AF000490	AF000491	AF000492
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000493	AF000494	AF000495	AF000496	AF000497	AF000498
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000499	AF000500	AF000501	AF000502	AF000503	AF000504
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000505	AF000506	AF000507	AF000508	AF000509	AF000510
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000511	AF000512	AF000513	AF000514	AF000515	AF000516
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	AF000517	AF000518	AF000519	AF000520	AF000521	AF000522
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000523	AF000524	AF000525	AF000526	AF000527	AF000528
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000529	AF000530	AF000531	AF000532	AF000533	AF000534
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000535	AF000536	AF000537	AF000538	AF000539	AF000540
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000541	AF000542	AF000543	AF000544	AF000545	AF000546
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000547	AF000548	AF000549	AF000550	AF000551	AF000552
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000553	AF000554	AF000555	AF000556	AF000557	AF000558
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000559	AF000560	AF000561	AF000562	AF000563	AF000564
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000565	AF000566	AF000567	AF000568	AF000569	AF000570
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000571	AF000572	AF000573	AF000574	AF000575	AF000576
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000577	AF000578	AF000579	AF000580	AF000581	AF000582
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	AF000583	AF000584	AF000585	AF000586	AF000587	AF000588
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000589	AF000590	AF000591	AF000592	AF000593	AF000594
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000595	AF000596	AF000597	AF000598	AF000599	AF000600
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000601	AF000602	AF000603	AF000604	AF000605	AF000606
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000607	AF000608	AF000609	AF000610	AF000611	AF000612
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000613	AF000614	AF000615	AF000616	AF000617	AF000618
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000619	AF000620	AF000621	AF000622	AF000623	AF000624
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000625	AF000626	AF000627	AF000628	AF000629	AF000630
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000631	AF000632	AF000633	AF000634	AF000635	AF000636
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000637	AF000638	AF000639	AF000640	AF000641	AF000642
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000643	AF000644	AF000645	AF000646	AF000647	AF000648
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	AF000649	AF000650	AF000651	AF000652	AF000653	AF000654
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000655	AF000656	AF000657	AF000658	AF000659	AF000660
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000661	AF000662	AF000663	AF000664	AF000665	AF000666
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000667	AF000668	AF000669	AF000670	AF000671	AF000672
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000673	AF000674	AF000675	AF000676	AF000677	AF000678
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000679	AF000680	AF000681	AF000682	AF000683	AF000684
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000685	AF000686	AF000687	AF000688	AF000689	AF000690
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000691	AF000692	AF000693	AF000694	AF000695	AF000696
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000697	AF000698	AF000699	AF000700	AF000701	AF000702
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000703	AF000704	AF000705	AF000706	AF000707	AF000708
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000709	AF000710	AF000711	AF000712	AF000713	AF000714
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	AF000715	AF000716	AF000717	AF000718	AF000719	AF000720
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000721	AF000722	AF000723	AF000724	AF000725	AF000726
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	AF000727	AF000728	AF000729	AF000730	AF000731	AF000732
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	AF000733	AF000734	AF000735	AF000736	AF000737	AF000738
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	AF000739	AF000740	AF000741	AF000742	AF000743	AF000744
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	AF000745	AF000746	AF000747	AF000748	AF000749	AF000750
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	AF000751	AF000752	AF000753	AF000754	AF000755	AF000756
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	AF000757	AF000758	AF000759	AF000760	AF000761	AF000762
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	AF000763	AF000764	AF000765	AF000766	AF000767	AF000768
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	AF000769	AF000770	AF000771	AF000772	AF000773	AF000774
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	AF000775	AF0007				

[illegible]

The data are presented in two ways. Figures S1–S5 available as Supplementary Material at NAR Online, show the actual amino acid sequence alignment information. A score of ≥1 from the BLOSUM 62 matrix is designated as similar while a score of 0 is considered a weak similarity. Amino acids are grouped and colored as follows: aromatic amino acids phenylalanine, tyrosine and tryptophan (FYW) are magenta; hydrophobic amino acids isoleucine, valine, leucine and methionine (IVLM) are cyan; charged/polar amino acids aspartic acid, glutamic acid, glutamine, lysine, arginine, asparagine and histidine (DEQKRNH) are red; small amino acids glycine,

[illegible]

Figures 2-6 show schematic diagrams of the protein alignments based on the sequence alignments described above. Blocks of similar color represent blocks of sequence similarity and are not a representation of any structural information. Different colored boxes represent uninterrupted regions of

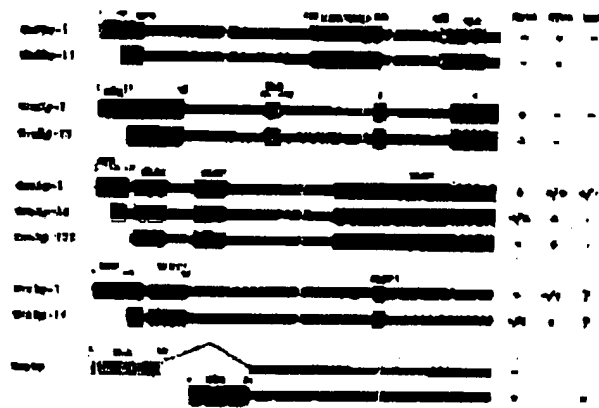


Figure 1. Location of information for subcellular distribution of sorting isozymes. Known and presumed targeting signals are represented as colored boxes. Magenta boxes represent known mitochondrial targeting information. Teal boxes and blue boxes represent known and presumed (NLS?) nuclear targeting information, respectively. Purple boxes may target Trnlp to a subnuclear location and the green boxes in ModSp may be responsible for the predominantly cytosolic distribution of this protein. CRD, cytoplasmic retention domain; NES, nuclear export signal. The black lines represent the conserved regions of each protein and are not to scale. The subcellular distributions of the various forms of each protein are also indicated. For Htr1p, +/- refers to locations detected upon protein over-expression.

similarity (at least 35%) between the proteins from different organisms. Black lines represent eukaryotic sequences not generally similar to each other. Gray lines represent prokaryotic sequences not generally similar to each other or the eukaryotic sequences. Not all the sequences depicted are complete and

some of the eukaryotic peptides judged to be too incomplete are not shown in the schematic diagrams. Eight eukaryotes were selected to represent the domain Eukarya: *Homo sapiens*, *Mus musculus*, *Caenorhabditis elegans*, *Plasmodium falciparum*, *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Candida albicans*. Plants are usually represented as a composite diagram due to the lack of complete sequence information. An I to the right of the schematics designates incomplete information and n C designates complete cDNA or genomic DNA sequence information. The lengths of the polypeptide chains are indicated and where a composite schematic is shown the lengths of the individual polypeptide chains are separated by slashes. The eubacterial and archaeal schematics are derived from consensus sequences and the number of peptides used to generate the consensus is also indicated. Where information is available concerning the site of intron-exon junctions, the locations of introns are marked with an x.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

ModSp homologs and conservation of regions for subcellular distribution

We previously reported an alignment of ModSp/MiaA from 33 eubacteria and three eukaryotes (13). Our continued search for ModSp homologs has now uncovered ModSp/MiaA in 45 eubacteria (see Table 1). Two eubacterial organisms do not contain a *miaA* gene (*Mycoplasma genitalium* and *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*) while one, *Porphyromonas gingivalis*, contains two *miaA* genes. Seventeen eukaryotic homologs were identified in fifteen organisms (*H.sapiens*, *M.musculus*, *Drosophila melanogaster*, *C.elegans*, *P.falciparum*, *Cryptosporidium parvum*, *Leishmania major*, *Trypanosoma brucei*, *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Oryza sativa*, *S.pombe*, *S.cerevisiae*, *C.albicans*,

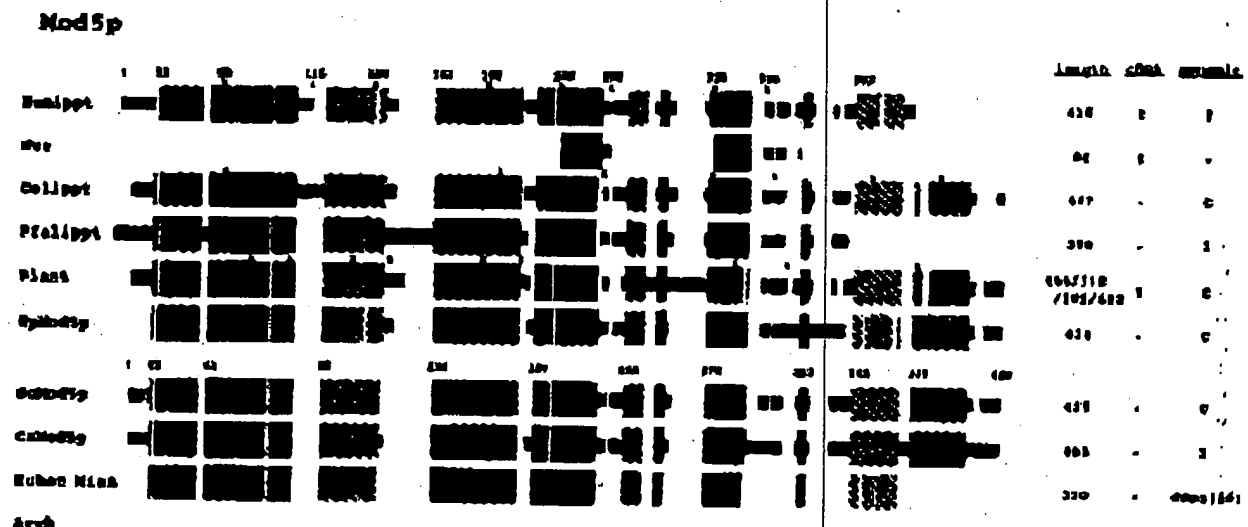


Figure 2. Schematic diagram of ModSp alignment. Not all of the eukaryotic homologs are shown in this schematic. A sequence alignment of all identified ModSp homologs and the eubacterial MiaA proteins can be found in Figure S1. The eubacterial MiaA peptides (46) are represented as a consensus sequence. No similar proteins were identified in the archaeal domain. Regions of uninterrupted sequence similarity (at least 35%) are shown as crosshatched colored boxes. See Methods for additional explanations.

Kluyveromyces fragilis and *Neurospora crassa*). *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *C. elegans* have only one gene encoding this protein. Only eight of the eukaryotic Mod5s are shown in Figure 2 and the 46 eubacterial MiaA homologs are represented in Figure 2 as a consensus schematic. The entry for plants in Figure 2 represents a composite of three *A. thaliana* homologs and one homolog from rice. No homologs were identified in archaea, consistent with the fact that i⁶A has not been found on tRNAs isolated from organisms in the archaeal domain (14,15).

By alternative translational starts the *S. cerevisiae* MOD5 gene encodes two proteins, Mod5p-I and Mod5p-II (16), which are differentially partitioned between the cytoplasm, mitochondria and nucleus (17). Mod5p-I is located in the mitochondrial and cytosolic compartments whereas Mod5p-II is in the cytosol and the nucleus. Amino acids 1-20 comprise a mitochondrial targeting sequence (MTS) necessary for distribution of Mod5p-I to the mitochondria (17).

MTSs are usually located at the N-terminus, contain basic and hydrophobic amino acids and are predicted to form amphiphilic α -helices; however, there is no linear consensus sequence for mitochondrial targeting information (18,19). To assess whether other eukaryotes may utilize the same strategy as that for *S. cerevisiae*, we investigated the N-terminal regions of the other eukaryotic Mod5 proteins. Five of the eukaryotic homologs (*S. cerevisiae*, *C. elegans*, *C. albicans*, *P. falciparum* and one of the homologs from *A. thaliana*) contain multiple ATGs at the beginning of the coding region (Fig. 2), while for most of the other eukaryotes there is insufficient information available to predict whether or not multiple translation initiations give rise to different isoforms. The amphiphilic nature of these N-terminal peptides was investigated by plotting them on a helical wheel projection (not shown). In addition to *S. cerevisiae*, the *C. elegans* and *C. albicans* N-terminal regions resemble other MTSs (18,19). Thus, we predict that the *C. elegans* and *C. albicans* Mod5 proteins will also be sorted between the cytoplasm and mitochondria. The N-terminal regions of the *P. falciparum* homolog and the *A. thaliana* homolog with an N-terminal extension (Fig. S1, Athaippt) do not resemble other MTSs. In general, the eubacterial proteins do not have this N-terminal extension bolstering the idea that this extra domain found in the eukaryotic proteins is used for targeting.

Arabidopsis thaliana has at least three genes predicted to encode Mod5 proteins; therefore, different genes may well provide the same catalytic activity to different compartments for this organism. While additional information concerning *A. thaliana* and other eukaryotic organisms will be required to determine how mitochondrial/chloroplast/cytoplasmic/nuclear sorting may be achieved, it appears that for the Mod5 family sometimes one gene codes a catalytic activity found in multiple compartments whereas in other cases, two or more genes may code the isozymes.

Nearly all of the eukaryotic Mod5 proteins possess ~50 amino acids at the C-terminus that are not present in the eubacterial MiaA proteins (Fig. 2). The *S. cerevisiae* Mod5p nuclear localization sequence (NLS) maps within this 'additional domain' (amino acids 408-428; 13). In all of the other eukaryotes where sufficient sequence information is available (Fig. 2; *S. pombe*, *C. albicans*, *C. elegans*, rice and one of the *A. thaliana* homologs), the C-terminal region is similar leading to the prediction that they all contain a NLS and that a portion of the

Mod5p pool in these organisms will also be located in the nucleus. Only one of the three *A. thaliana* homologs contains this NLS region while the others lack it (Fig. S1, not shown in Fig. 2), again suggesting that multiple genes encode differently located Mod5p in *A. thaliana*.

Besides the N-terminal and C-terminal additional domains, the eukaryotic Mod5 proteins also contain internal domains not found in the eubacterial homologs (Fig. 2). These internal additions overlap the region between amino acids 240 and 280 that were previously mapped to function in maintenance of the yeast Mod5p cytosolic pool (13). As all the eukaryotic sequences contain a similar region, we predict each of the eukaryotic counterparts also has a cytosolic pool of this protein.

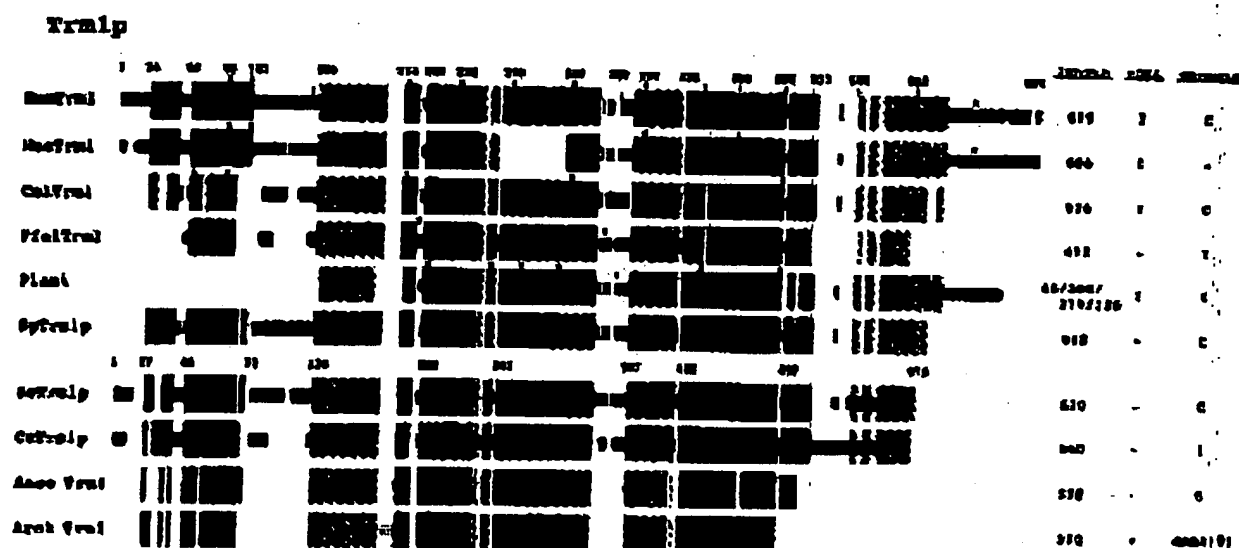
A portion of the *S. cerevisiae* Mod5p-II resides in the nucleolus (13). The information used for nucleolar location has not been mapped. If, like the NLS and MTS, the nucleolar targeting/retention information resides in motifs absent from the eubacterial counterparts, then candidate locations for nucleolar targeting are between amino acids 303 and 345 and/or 373 and 408.

Trm1p homologs and conservation of regions for subcellular distribution

TRM1 genes are found in eukaryotes and archaea, but are generally not present in eubacteria (Fig. 3). In addition to the Trm1p homologs that have already been reported (20,21; six from the archaeal domain, *Aquifex aeolicus*, *S. cerevisiae*, *S. pombe*, *C. elegans* and human) our searches revealed three additional archaeal homologs and incomplete sequences for mouse, rat, zebrafish, *D. melanogaster*, *P. falciparum*, *C. parvum*, *T. brucei*, *A. thaliana*, rice, *Brassica*, *Zea mays* and *C. albicans*. There is only a single eubacterial organism, *A. aeolicus*, that contains a *trm1* gene and this is likely a result of horizontal transfer (22-24). In agreement with our alignments, previous studies of tRNA modification have failed to uncover m²G in eubacterial tRNAs (14,15,25).

Eukaryotic and archaeal Trm1 proteins have considerable sequence similarity. However, like Mod5p, the eukaryotic proteins contain extra sequence information at the N- and C-termini and internally. The *S. cerevisiae* TRM1 gene contains ATG codons at positions 1 and 17. Human Trm1p contains 19 ATGs within the first 37 codons while mouse Trm1p contains three ATGs within the first 32 codons. Of the eukaryotic genes that have been sequenced at the N-terminus, only two, from *C. elegans* and *D. melanogaster* do not have multiple ATGs within the first 50 codons.

Some mitochondrial tRNAs of *S. cerevisiae* are modified by Trm1p and amino acids 1-48 of the *S. cerevisiae* Trm1p are sufficient to target this protein to mitochondria whereas amino acids 1-16 are not sufficient (26). There are several reports of m²G in mitochondrial and chloroplast tRNAs (27), but unfortunately the TRM1 genes have not been sequenced for the organisms demonstrated to contain m²G modified mitochondrial or chloroplast tRNAs. The N-terminus of the human Trm1p contains no acidic amino acids (Fig. S2) and when projected upon a helical wheel, it is predicted to have an amphiphilic structure, characteristic of MTSs (19). Thus, the human gene could encode a Trm1p that sorts to the mitochondria. The rodent homologs are very similar to the human in this region and the *C. albicans* Trm1p N-terminus contains what appears to be a very good MTS. As the *C. elegans* genome contains only a



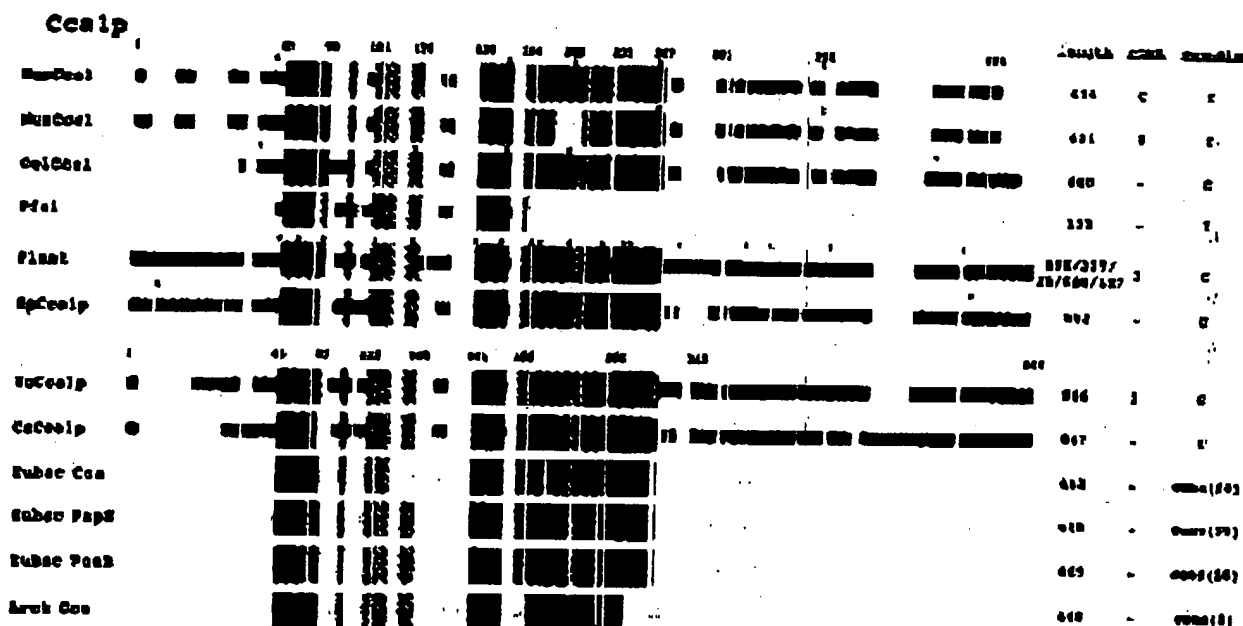


Figure 5. Schematic diagram of Cca1p alignment. A sequence alignment of all identified Cca1p homologs can be found in Figure S4. Eight archael Cca1p homologs were identified and are represented as a consensus schematic. Sixty-five homologs were identified in the eubacterial domain. The eubacterial homologs fall into three classes and a consensus schematic is presented for each class: Cca-14, Pap-12 and PenB-16. The schematic for plant in this figure is a composite of *A. thaliana*, *O. sativa*, lupine and *G. max*. Regions of uninterrupted sequence similarity are shown as crosshatched colored boxes. See Methods for additional explanations.

homologs were identified in the following organisms: *S. cerevisiae*, *S. pombe*, *C. albicans*, human, mouse, rat, *C. elegans*, *D. melanogaster*, *A. thaliana*, lupine, rice, *Glycine max*, *L. major*, *Brugia malayi* and *P. falciparum*. Eight archael homologs and 65 eubacterial homologs were identified. The latter have been grouped into three classes (Cca, Pap and PenB) based on the sequence alignments as well as previous nomenclature. A consensus schematic is shown for each of these three classes of eubacterial proteins in Figure 5.

In *S. cerevisiae* the CCA1 gene encodes three proteins (Cca1p-I, Cca1p-II and Cca1p-III) that result from differential translation starts at three in-frame AUGs (44). Eight of the eukaryotic genes have multiple ATGs in this N-terminal region (Fig. S4), suggesting that multiple forms of Cca1p could also be produced by these genes.

Cca1p-I from *S. cerevisiae* is located primarily in mitochondria whereas Cca1p-II and Cca1p-III are located both in the cytosol and the nucleus (45). Like MtdSp, Trm1p and Hls1p the N-terminus of *S. cerevisiae* Cca1p contains mitochondrial targeting information. For each of the other eukaryotes where there is sufficient information, the eukaryotic Cca1p counterparts have an N-terminal extension that is absent or different in the eubacterial and archael proteins. This region most likely directs the non-plant Cca1p to mitochondria. Plant Cca1p should also be directed to the chloroplast. As chloroplast targeting information also is usually located at the N-terminus and resembles mitochondrial targeting information (46; for a review see 47), it is difficult to predict the function of the plant N-terminal Cca1p extensions.

Also, since no plant genome has been completely sequenced there could be different genes for mitochondrial and chloroplast CCA activities.

The location of other targeting information for Cca1p is unknown, but there are other regions that contain additions not found in eubacteria (94-103; 109-114 *S. cerevisiae* numbering). There are also extensive regions of the proteins that are dissimilar between eukaryotes and prokaryotes (Fig. 5) that could contain nuclear targeting information.

Ung1p homologs and conservation of regions for subcellular distribution

Uracil-DNA glycosylase (UNG or UDG) is a DNA repair enzyme. The *ung* gene is found in 33 eubacteria, but is not present in archaea. Thus, either another gene product supplies this function or this function is not required. Interestingly, of the 19 complete eubacterial genomes, the *ung* gene is absent from six (*Rickettsia prowazekii*, *Clostridium acetobutylicum*, *Treponema pallidum*, *A. aeolicus*, *Thermotoga maritima* and *Synechocystis*), again suggesting that this function may not be required. Also of note is that within the genus *Clostridium* one organism, *Clostridium difficile*, contains a *ung* gene while *C. acetobutylicum* does not. UNG genes are also present in some viruses and consensus sequences for the Ung protein from 23 Herpes simplex viruses and five pox viruses are shown in Figure S5.

The human homolog of this enzyme is the most thoroughly studied. BLAST searches revealed Ung homologs in 11 other

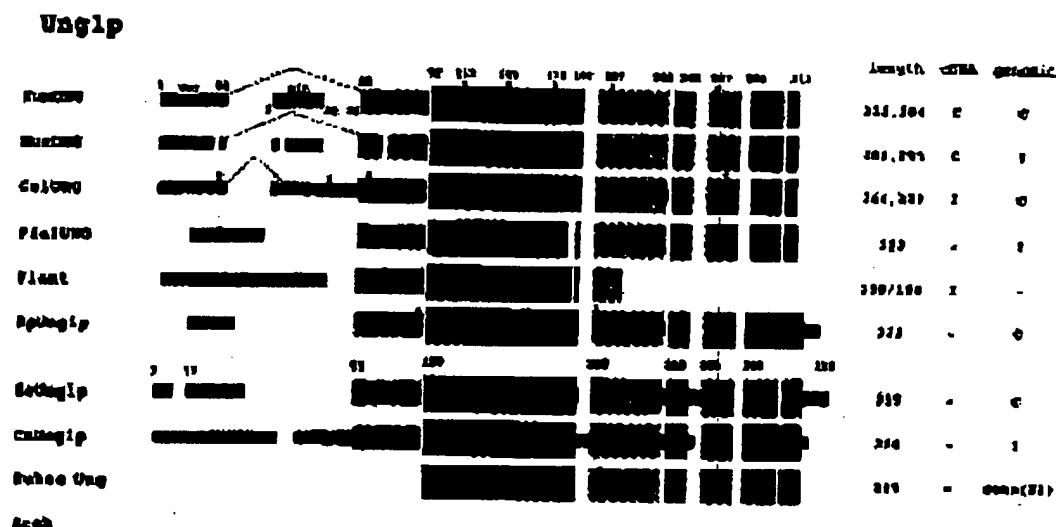


Figure 6. Schematic diagram of Ung1p alignment. A sequence alignment of all identified Ung1p homologs can be found in Figure S5. Ung1p was not identified in the archaeal domain. Thirty-three homologs were identified in the eubacterial domain and a consensus schematic is presented for these homologs. The schematic for plant in this figure is a composite of poplar and yamnia. Regions of uninterrupted sequence similarity are shown as crosshatched colored boxes. Alternatively spliced exons are also indicated. See Methods for additional explanations.

eukaryotes. The mouse homolog is very similar to the human (90% similarity) and both sort this enzyme between the nucleus and mitochondria via a mechanism that depends on alternative splicing (48,49; Fig. 6). This mechanism may also be used in *C. elegans* as there is an extra 'exon' upstream of the *UNG* gene which could be used to supply additional targeting information. However, this putative exon does not resemble known MTS or NLS motifs. Disregarding this putative exon the *C. elegans* ORF contains four in-frame ATGs. Downstream of AUG2 there is a sequence resembling a MTS, but we were unable to identify a classical simple or bipartite-like NLS in the N-terminal region. In *S. cerevisiae* there are four methionines within the first 50 amino acids and alternative transcription or translation start sites could provide the sorting mechanism for this enzyme; however, the available data (50; P.Burgers, personal communication) indicate that Ung1p is solely nuclear and unlikely to sort to mitochondria in yeast.

Since Ung1p should function within the nucleus of eukaryotes, there should be information to target this enzyme to the nucleus. Most of the eukaryotic and viral Ung proteins contain extra N-terminal sequence information not found in the bacterial counterparts. The human and mouse nuclear targeting information resides within this region and *S. cerevisiae* and *P. falciparum* appear to contain conventional bipartite NLSs within this region.

CONCLUSIONS

We surveyed five families of proteins containing at least one confirmed sorting isozyme. Four of these protein families have members that are highly conserved across taxonomic domains and the eukaryotic proteins contain additional sequences not

found in the eubacterial or archaeal counterparts. Although the fifth protein, Ccd1p, fits the pattern established by the other proteins in a limited sense, large portions of this protein are dissimilar when compared across taxonomic domains.

Additional information can be located at the N- or C-termini or it can be located internally. The location of additional sequence information is conserved, but the sequences are not necessarily similar. It has been proposed that intron locations correspond to positions separating independent functional domains of proteins (51,52). Although our data set is limited, our analysis does not appear to support this view. In general, ADEPTs do not correspond to genomic spliced regions.

We summarize the evidence that the additional sequences can encode information to sort the isozymes to appropriate subcellular locations (Fig. 1). The data lead us to propose the ADEPT hypothesis that similarly located extra information in other eukaryotic homologs will serve the same roles in protein subcellular distribution. We present this type of analysis as a predictive tool. Our results suggest that phylogenetic comparison/multiple sequence alignment will be a useful tool for predicting the cell biological information content of protein sequences. Future mechanistic tests of the sequences identified here will be necessary to determine how accurate these predictions are. However, data to date are quite consistent with the ADEPT concept.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

See Supplementary Material available at NAR Online. Update to the published Supplementary Material will be available at <http://www.colimmed.psu.edu/labs/ahopper/DRS/ADEPTs/sortpaper.htm>

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